

Lady Death



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Lady Death®

"The Odyssey" part 2 (of 4): "Enslaved"



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Color Monkey, Inc.

The Story So Far

Lady Death, once omnipotent ruler of Hell, was able to transform realms with a mere glance. But that is all... a distant memory now. Severely weakened and spiritually depleted, she can't even manifest her legendary sword, Darkness. A mysterious warrior goddess intervenes, and without her knowing, condemns the Diva of Death to a dark, frozen realm locked over by a deadly fallen angel, Agony. Though Lady Death won their battle, she couldn't help feeling as if she was manipulated into an act of heroism. Before she can react, she is suddenly whisked off to a desert realm populated by predator pirates and maelstrom! Back in Hell, Lucifer's destroyer of destroyers is resurrected. His agenda? Lady Death's annihilation.

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TELEMACH IS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S MYSTICAL REALMS, INHABITING THE UNKNOWN, A VAST DIMENSIONAL PLANE WHERE ALL THEOLOGIES CLASH

IT IS A FIERCE PIRATE DOMAIN AND ITS BARBARIC PEOPLE ARE DEDICATED TO SCAVENGING THE DRY LANDS FOR BOUNTY OF ANY KIND.

TONIGHT, IN THE FLOATING BARTER VILLAGE OF RAMRUNDRA, A GATHERING IS IN PROGRESS

A SLAVE AUCTION

GATHER AROUND
YEA, SCOUNDRELS AND
VAGABONDS.

YE COME FAR
AND WIDE FOR SOMETHING
UNCOMMON!

AND UNCOMMON YOU'LL
GET OR ME NAME AIN'T
SCALAWAG, THE AUCTIONEER!

BLOW THE SAND DUST
OUTTA YER POCKETS, AND PULL OUT YER
COINS. 'CAUSE WHAT YOU'RE ABOUT TO SEE,
YOU WON'T BELIEVE!

FEAST YER TIRE'D EYES
ON THIS INCREDIBLE GHOSTLY CREATURE!
NONE LIKE HER IN ALL TELMACH!

ANTE UP 'CAUSE SHE
WONT COME CHEAP!

LADY DEATH CANNOT BELIEVE HER LUCK. SHE CHOOSES
TO ABANDON HER WARRIOR WAYS TO SEEK PEACE BUT IT
IS NOT TO BE. AGAINST HER WISHES SHE'S BEEN CALLED
INTO ACTION BY AN UNKNOWN "VOICE." FOR BETTER OR
MORE LIKELY WORSE, HER ODYSSEY HAS JUST BEGUN

WE START THE BID AT
100,000 BLARNS!

PIRATE SCUM!
YOU'LL REGRET THIS!

LOOK AT THEM-
LEERING!

IF I COULD,
I WOULD BURN THEIR EYES OUT
OF THEIR SOCKETS. I'D FORCE THEM TO
KNEEL AT MY COMING AND BEG
FOR MY FORGIVENESS.

BUT I'M EXHAUSTED.
MY POWERS VANISHED. I MUST BIDE
MY TIME. IF I AM TO ESCAPE
THIS NIGHTMARE AT ALL!

IDLE THREATS, MATES.
NOT TO WORRY. SHE'S WEAK
LIKE AN INFANT!

HERE, HERE!

225,000!

200,000!

150,000!



250,000!

300,000!

400,000!

500,000!

I SAY 1,000,000 AND SHE'S ALL MINE!



WRAK

HEY, ALL'S FAIR, MATE

1,200,000!

EVER SINCE I FOUND YA
ON THE DESERT BEAS, LASS, I CAN FEEL
ME LUCK CHANGIN' FOR THE BETTER.
YOU DON'T SAY MUCH, DO YA?

I WON'T
BULLY MYSELF SPEAKING
TO YOU, PIG!

I ONLY WANTED TO
RENUENCE MY WARRIOR
WAYS. FIND HOME

BUT THE VOICE CAME:
A WOMAN'S VOICE-AND TRIED
TO FORCE ME INTO A DESTINY I'VE
REFUSED. WHY WOULD I CARE
ABOUT THE JUDGMENT ERA?
I WANT PEACE. I'VE TIRED
OF CONFLICT.

I SAID SHE'S MINE AT 1,000,000!



WHAK



IN THE SKY ABOVE—
WHAT IS IT?

THE PIRATES
APPEAR WORRIED!

COULD IT BE THE VOICE?
IF SO, WHAT DOES IT WANT?
I BELIEVE IT IS TRYING TO TEACH
ME LESSONS, BUT I AM NO ONE'S
STUDENT!

There by the
grace of God go!

Too late to wager,
dear sinners and subjects?

Might I inquire,
what was the highest bid?

OF ALL THE
ROTTEN LUCK

Keep yer voice down,
ye should know better. Just be calm.
You know how TESTY these
ANGELS are.

UH... IT
WAS 1,200,000,
LORD MACABRE.

ANOTHER FALLEN
ANGEL!

IT'S NOT THE VOICE,
BUT PERHAPS HE IS THE FIRST
CLUE TO THE REASON I WAS
SENT HERE?



Well then, I'll bid TEN

I'll bid nine



I BID 1,000,000
YOU HEAR ME?

SHE'S MINE!

SHUT UP, DOWN, DOWN
YOU DON'T KNOW WHO
YOU'RE TAUNTING

HE DON'T
LOOK LIKE MUCH!



Five!

Seven

I bid NONE!
I win! Another prize
for my collection

You are a cur Macabrel
You ALWAYS win!

Three!

One!

Ah dear MALADY
we all must pay a price

HE'S CRAZY!

I thought you
all **KNEW** better.

A little
REMINDER
is in order

CLEAR OUT!


**SHE'S MINE
YOU HEAR, MINE!**

NO FANCY TALKIN'
REGAL SWINE WILL TAKE
WHAT'S MINE!

GGRRRAAA!

Silly creature,
eh dear sister?

Aren't they all!
Such **DELUSIONS**
of grandeur



When GOD created us he
told us to bow down to no one but him
Then he created these, these... creatures
and commanded us to bow
before THEM

He considered them
HIGHER. But how COULD we
without DISOBEYING his
first commandment?

I never understood the
ATTRACTION.

Not I, dear Malady
Not I

Yes, you
GROVELING
worms, state and wonder!
Admire our GRACE,
our majesty!

And BE afraid!
Truly afraid!

Come along
my TRINKET

DAMNED ANGELS!

ALWAYS ROBBING
OUR BOUNTY!

Oh but you ARE!
You are!
HAHA

I AM
NOT A TROPHY
TO BE PASSED
HAND TO HAND!

UGH!

TRULY A WASTE

Cast off ye vagabonds!
Head north toward the black
wreath, and the CHASMA
CORRIDOR beyond! Have a
MONUMENT to finish!

WHAT DO YOU
WANT, MAGARIS?

SPEAK!
I want to IMMORTALIZE
you! You are TROUBLED
I'm here to fix all this

You will join the OTHERS
in my collection. You'll be
free of WORRY, free of PAIN
You know PEACE!

BLARG! WHEN I WAS
SENT TO A FROZEN JUNGLE
DOWNSIDE I ENCOUNTERED A
SHOCKING FALLEN ANGEL. ADONY
I'M SURE I WAS SENT THERE
TO LEARN A LESSON

NEARLY!

AND NOW AGAIN I AM
THRUST CENTER STAGE WITH
ANGELS. WHAT GEDDOW AM I
TO LEARN FROM THIS
"SABOTICAL DANCE"?

I'M A SHADOW
OF MY FORMER SELF
I CANNOT EVEN HANDLE
MAGARIS' SWORD!

NO MATTER

I BESTED ADONY
WITH ANGRISAC ENERGY
HOW WILL IT FADE
ON THEM?

SHURAK!

FSHAK!

OH NOT
MY ENERGISAC ARMS
MY ENERGISAC ARMS!



YOU
CRAFTY
WITCH!

Malady my
dark half - it's
returning! And
it's HER doing!

Can't you
SMELL it, brother?
It's DIVINE
energy!

She's perfect
Heaven and Hell
Saint and Sinner!

FWHAM

Have the
SERAPHIM
sent a warrior to
RECLAIM us?

It is the
Judgment era.
Who knows
what HEAVEN
will send to
SILENCE
its LONG
LOST!

She's NO
angel, but she
harbors energy
both DARK
and DIVINE

Abandon this
creature, Macabre
She brings an
ill wind

It will
take time

RESTORE me!

No, Malady
She's the final
STROKE
in my opulent
MONUMENT!

With her, my
MASTERPIECE
will be
COMPLETE!

OUT IN THE HEART OF THE UNKNOWN
YANDALA, THE ENTITY BEHIND LADY DEATH'S
ODYSSEY, WAITS AND HOPES.

It pains me to dwell here
while our best DIE in battle
I HEAR their cries and I know
my DUTY, but the
ELDERKS ordered me to
RESIST the call

I must be vigilant!

I MUST
guide Lady Death, teach
her the ways of my
people to prepare her
for the REAL challenges
to come

Her entire EXISTENCE
is a paradox. How did she
wind up in Hell? She had
NO business there
It wasn't meant to be

She was SUPPOSED
to be with us!

Yet she made Hell hers
and DEFEATED Lucifer by
thrusting him through Heaven's
gate. Her actions shifted the
Universal balance of power
HERALDED the
Judgment Era

And like it or not
she's at the very HEART
of it, to a degree she
can barely conceive!

THE NATIVES OF MANICORE
BELIEVED THEIR CRUCIAL ANCIENT
RITUAL WOULD NEVER TAKE
PLACE AGAIN, BUT AT THE FOOT
OF SOULAIN, THEIR REALME
LIFE ESSENCE THE JOINING
IS ABOUT TO BEGIN

After I've taught her
my people's ways, she
MUST embrace her destiny
She must

Everything that exists
hangs in the balance

PANDEMONIUM
TAKE YOUR PLACE!

THE NATIVES OF MANICORE SHARE A SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP WITH THE JUNGLE. EVERY GENERATION, A WARRIOR IS CHOSEN AFTER A SERIES OF NEAR IMPOSSIBLE TRIALS TO ABSORB SOULAINS' POWER AND BECOME ITS GUARDIAN.

FOR THIS GENERATION, THE UPSTART, PANDEMONIUM, FORMERLY OF THE ASSASSIN'S GUILD, IS THE CHOSEN ONE.

I NEVER BELIEVED THIS NIGHT WOULD COME. AND NOW THAT IT HAS, I'M TERRIFIED.

I'M TO LEAD MY PEOPLE, BECOME THE GUARDIAN? I'M EXPECTED TO RESTORE MANICORE'S GREATNESS.

BEFORE THE TRIALS I WAS JUST A THIEF.

I DON'T KNOW IF I WANT THE CHALLENGE!

BEFORE THE JOINING CAN GET UNDERWAY...

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PANDEMONIUM
LOOK ABOVE

THE SKY IS
ON FIRE!

...ASTEROOTH, LUCIFER'S DESTROYER
OF DESTROYERS, ARRIVES.

WHERE IS THE DESTROYER?
WHERE IS CINDY DEAN?

I FOCUSED
HER PSYCHIC
ENERGIES HERE.

RRRUUMBLEEE

SHE IS
NOT HERE!

I ONLY WISH
SHE WAS!

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SSSSSSSSSS

[illegible]

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[illegible][illegible][illegible]

THE
KACCE
CAME

THE FACE
OF JEE GUEE
AND THE CRYING
OF LACHTER RISES
IN MY MINDS

IT IS ONLY
A CRATE OF
ENERGY, WHEN IT
DISAPPEARS

CHAK

SSSSSSSS

SSSSSS

I WILL
TEND HER, NOCTHIN
SHALL REVER MY
QUEST!

SLIK!

SHE'S
THERE
BEHIND!

HOUGH

NOCTHIN





forget your
MONUMENT!
I need time to
RESTORE it!

The enemy
is raising our
DIVINITY!

What if
your mystical
machinations
DON'T work?

What then?

PERHAPS I AM
HEAVEN SENT. PERHAPS
THE VOICE IS AN
ANGEL AND THEY INTEND
ME TO BE THEIR
MESSENGER OF DEATH-KILLER
OF FALLEN ANGELS!

CAN'T MOVE!

I NEED TO KNOW
WHO IS BEHIND MY
GOYSEY, BUT I
SENSE EACH MOMENT I
SPEND WITH THESE DRUIDS
BRINGS ME CLOSER
TO CATASTROPHE!



If I'm to
succumb to my
dark side I MUST at
least finish my work
complete the
MONUMENT!

You're
not an artist!
You're a
warrior!

Don't cross me
Malady! I NEVER
wanted to leave the
Heavenly gates! You
TRICKED me! And for
your transgression,
you SWORE to
obey me!

How
could I
forget?

We were
living a life under HIS orders.
we hung blasphemers by their
tongues and spread them under
unquenchable fire to burn until
cinder! The God we knew was
the God of wrath!

All the
while, the Heavenly
court was kept
in the dark.

But we
were HIS
men!

What do we
have now? Guilt
TURMOIL!
I'm SAVING them
from all that

REAR-RENDER!

IT CANNOT BE!
THE SKIES WERE
CLEAR!

SOUND
THE BELLS!
THE BELLS!

WE'RE
DOOMED!

FOLLOWING A TRAIL OF ANGELIC ENERGY, THE STORM RAGES TOWARD RAMRUNDA SOUNDING LIKE A THOUSAND TORTURED SOULS SCREAMING IN AGONY.

ABANDON PORT
ABANDON PORT

THE SOUND!
THE SOUND!

IT'S
UNNATURAL!

AAAAAAAAA

AAAAAHHH!

THE VILE DENIZENS AND SLAYERS OF RAMRUNDA TRY FUTILELY TO ABANDON PORT. BUT NONE ESCAPE THE STORM AS IT MERCILESSLY CUTS THROUGH THE VILLAGE.

THROUGH IT ALL—THE INESCAPABLE, TORTURED HOWLS OF ANGUISH

RUN!

RUN!

AS THE SLAYERS ARE SWEEPED UP INTO THE HEART OF THE STORM, THEY SEE THE SOURCE OF THE TORTURED HOWLS JUST BEFORE THEY DIE

THEY SEE A
HAUNTING
VISION AS A
THOUSAND
LOST SOULS
SCREAM FOR
VENGEANCE!

GUIDED BY DIVINE ENERGY, THE SOUL STORM
HEADS DIRECTLY TOWARD THE BLACK MOUNTAINS
IN THE DISTANCE

I'm soon
to lose my
PRECIOUS hands!
How will
I SCULPT?

We've arrived!
My work can
begin. Malady
shackle her with
a mystical bond!

Macabre,
we were
WARRIORS,
killers of
first-borns!

What PURPOSE
does your PITTIFUL
monument serve?
PENANCE! Feel
no guilt brother, we
ARE what we ate

MURDERERS!

WHAT EXACTLY
IS MACABRE'S AIM?
HE SPEAKS IN
RIDDLES!



Isn't it
GLORIOUS?

Look at them.
Immortal No conflict
No WORRY

THE BONDS!
UNBREAKABLE!

THOSE
WOMEN--



You haven't
given them PEACE!
Their souls TRAVERSE
the desert AIMLESSLY. They
may as well be DEAD.
you madman!

I'M CERTAIN
OF ONE THING: THE
VOICE DOESN'T WANT
ME DEAD. I'LL USE THAT
TO MY ADVANTAGE

I WON'T
RESIST MACABRE.
I'LL LET HIM HAVE
HIS WAY!

I'LL FORCE
THE VOICE TO
REVEAL ITSELF!



--THEY'RE
CRYSTALLIZED!

AS YOU
WILL BE

IF IT
ONLY COULD
BE THE SAME
FOR US, DEAR
SISTER

THEY
KNOW PEACE
WE COULD ONLY
IMAGINE

NO! The
angel energy!
It's spreading
to me!

We must
LEAVE!
Leave her!

A large, green, horned demon with a skull-like face and multiple arms is perched on the mast of a wooden sailing ship. The background is a dark, stormy sky with red clouds.

LORD MACABRE!

A STORM
COMES STRAIGHT
AT US!

EEERRRGGGHH!

WE ARE
WHAT WE ARE.
SISTER,
YOU SAID SO
YOURSELF.

WE CAN'T
HIDE UNDER THE
VEIL OF DIVINITY
ANY LONGER.

Brother
PLEASE! Can't
you hear the winds!
THE SCREAM!

We MUST
leave!

FRUUUUUUUU

Can't
you HEAR
it? WE must
Go!

NO! MY
MONUMENT!

WHERE IS
THE VOICE?

I KNOW
YOU'RE OUT
THERE!

REVEAL
YOURSELF!

REVEAL
YOURSELF!

OH NO!

REVEAL
YOURSELF!

Is Lady Death
WILLING to forfeit
her life?

Do I intercede?
Should I REVEAL
myself?

Damn her,
she's IMPOSSIBLE!
She RESISTS all my GUIDANCE!
I'm only trying to help her!

I HAVE to
stick to my resolve
She MUST learn my
people's ways.

CAST OFF!

IT'S TOO LATE!

AAAAAAA

AAAAAAA

AAAAAAA

YOU'RE INSANE, MACABRO,
AND YOU'RE DRAGGED HO INTO YOUR
DELUSIONS OF ATOMEMNET.

I LOATHE
YOU I'VE ALWAYS
LOATHED YOU!

SILENCE!

NO VOICE?
PERHAPS I MISJUDGEPI!

WE'RE GOING
TO DIE, YOU KNOW
THAT?!

EEEEEE!

SHAMMM!

NO!
MY HANDS!

I AM
DENIED!

THE MYSTICAL
BOND IS SEVERED!
I AM FREE!

THIS MAY BE
THE END--I WON'T
GO ALONE!

CHING!

AND THEN AS THE SOUL STORM CONNECTS
WITH THE ANCIENT MONUMENT, SOMETHING
UNEXPECTED OCCURS...

RELEASE!

AT LAST!





MY MASTER! CEE!



DO MY EYES DECEIVE ME?
THE CRYSTALLIZED WOMEN.
THEY'RE REBORN!



MACABRE, YOU HAVE
VISITORS AND THEY'RE
NOT PLEASED TO
SEE YOU.



THANK YOU
LOYAL SISTER

WE ARE IN
YOUR DEBT

MACABRE
YOU'VE DEFAMED
OUR HOLY LINEAGE!

I am just...
an artist

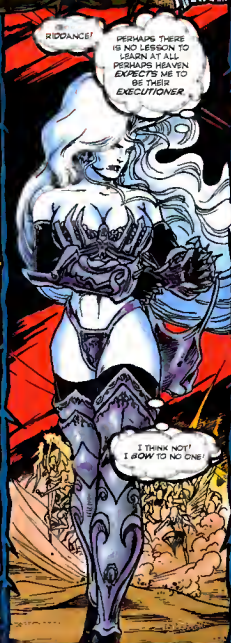


YOU WANT HIM?
HE'S ALL YOURS!

NO!



NO!
NO!



RIDDANCE!

PERHAPS THERE
IS NO LESSON TO
LEARN AT ALL
PERHAPS HEAVEN
EXPECTS ME TO
BE THEIR
EXECUTIONER.

I THINK NOT!
I BOW TO NO ONE!



WE THANK YOU
SISTER

SAVE YOUR
THANKS

YOUR LOYALTY
TO THE SISTERHOOD
WILL NOT SOON
BE FORGOTTEN

LOYALTY?

WE ARE ALL WANDERERS, SISTER. WE LOST OUR PATH. MACABRE TRAPPED OUR BODIES, BUT NOT OUR SOULS. OVER TIME, WE GATHERED TOGETHER IN THE STORM, BUT STILL, WE COULD NOT FIND OUR WAY.

THEN YOU CAME AND YOUR ENERGIES, MOST ANGELIC, GUIDED US.

YOU LED US HERE WITH YOUR TRAIL OF ANGELIC ENERGY. YOU FREED US.

THANK YOU, LOYAL SISTER.

DO NOT MAKE THIS OUT FOR MORE THAN IT IS!

I WAS SELF SERVING, YOU HEAR ME!

WHAT MORE CAN ANYONE ASK?

AND IN SERVING YOURSELF, YOU SERVED US ALL.

THE LESSON?

YOU SHOWED US THE WAY.



Indeed

Perhaps there
is hope for
her after all

DISAPPEARING!
NO!
NOT AGAIN!

I WON'T
BE HEAVEN'S
EXECUTIONER!

I am NOT
from Heaven!

THE VOICE!

THEN WHERE
ARE YOU FROM?!

if you
SURVIVE
your last lesson,
you'll learn
soon enough!

NEXT:

LADY DEATH
SACRIFICED TO
KACI **GODDESS**
OF DEATH!



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